

**Warm-Up Part 1:****MAIN VERBS and HELPING VERBS**

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A verb may consist of a **main verb (MV)** and one or more **helping verbs (HV)**, such as *am, is, are, was, were, be, been, have, has, had, do, does, did, shall, will, should, would* and *could*. A main verb and its helping verbs make up what's known as a **verb phrase**.

**Example:**                   HV   HV       MV  
Tara had been watching the program. ("Had" and "been" are helping verbs. "Watching" is the main verb. "Had been watching" is a verb phrase.)

**Directions:** Identify the main verbs and helping verbs in each sentence. Underline the verbs and mark them "MV" for main verbs or "HV" for helping verbs.

**Example:**                   HV       MV  
Greta has forgotten her lunch.

1. Victor's parents have gotten him a new camera for his birthday.
2. Now, Victor can take a photography class.
3. He will go to the community center.
4. There, he can join a class.
5. A woman has been teaching the class.
6. Victor has heard about Marge's popular class.
7. She has been explaining light meters and time exposure.
8. Victor might have become a wildlife photographer for *National Geographic* someday.

**Warm-Up Part 2:****Separated Parts of a Verb**

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Sometimes the parts of a verb are separated by other words that are not verbs, such as in the following examples:

The artist *has* already *finished* the painting.

I *did* not *understand* your question.

She *hasn't* *arrived* yet.

**Part I. Finding the Verb.** In each of the following sentences, the parts of the verb are separated by one or more words that are not part of the verb. Underline the parts of the verb.

**Example:**       We had not seen the game.

1. Nick had never rowed a boat before.
2. The mayor has surely heard the good news.
3. The electrician will probably fix the lights soon.

4. I haven't always liked Italian food.

**Part II. Using verbs and subjects.** On the lines provided, supply helping verbs (HV) and main verbs (MV) as directed.

5. The silver car \_\_\_\_\_ (HV) easily \_\_\_\_\_ (MV) the race.
6. Snow \_\_\_\_\_ (HV) quickly \_\_\_\_\_ the town.
7. For weeks she \_\_\_\_\_ (HV) not \_\_\_\_\_ (MV) any news.
8. Janet \_\_\_\_\_ (HV) not \_\_\_\_\_ (MV) the concert.